

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013
AT TOWN HALL AT 5:30 PM**

Called to order at 5:30 PM

Present: Nick Nelson, Jim Patterson, Greg Nelson, Ham Ross, Marty Curry

Greg Nelson welcomes new member Marty Curry

Staff present: Pete Clark, Keith Sowl, Lisa Potswald, Jen Croonborg-Murphy, Michael Dalzell, Glenn Carlson

Public Present: Charlie Meech, Mike Starck, Dave Thomas, Jenny Sanders, John Carlson, Liz Ellis, Holly Tourdot, Robin Trinko-Russell

I. Public Comment A*

Holly Tourdot addressed the Board on the subject of herbicide spraying and requested a series of public hearings or meetings on the subject.

Robin Trinko-Russell addressed the Board on the subject of herbicide spraying, saying that she has worked for years to fight invasive species. She referred to both the Northwoods Weed Management Cooperative & the Department of Natural Resources extension in saying that "the only effective method of control is controlled use of herbicide."

II. Town Administrator's Report presented by Pete Clark & placed on file by unanimous consent.

Clark reported that the Army Corps of Engineers, after having met with the Bands, had made a determination of "No adverse Effects" and would be issuing the permits for Big Bay Town Park by Friday, April 26, 2013.

In presenting his background study of the ownership of La Pointe School, Clark next presented a brief history of the school: on December 19, 1986, the Town of La Pointe filed a petition for detachment from the School district of Ashland. At a joint hearing held by the school boards of Ashland and Bayfield, the petition was denied on January 31, 1987. The Town of La Pointe filed an appeal of Order No. 1987-299 with the State Superintendent of Schools on February 26, 1987; on May 13, 1987, Order No. 1987-299 was overturned and the Town was granted the Petition of Detachment effective July 1, 1987. Following that, all parties met to determine the adjustment of assets: Effective July 1, 1987, the ownership was transferred to the Bayfield School District, pursuant to Order No. 1987-299. The transfer was concluded in 1987.

III. Public Works

A. Roads

1. Community and Economic Development Project [CEDS] List

Jim Patterson requested that the priority numbers assigned to some of the projects be revised to reflect the Town's current interest in having a Community Center. Pete Clark responded that he will be working on the CEDS list because he feels the Town is missing some vital opportunities by not including the number of jobs that would become available with each project.

2. Letter of Authorization RE: concrete planks for Griggs Approach Motion to award the Griggs Approach contract to Nelson Construction of La Pointe, WI and authorize the purchase of concrete planks for the project. HR/MC 4A 1 Ab. Motion Carried.

B. Parks

1. Spraying for invasive species control: in referring to the email communications from Holly Tourdot, Foreman Sowl stated that no one wants to use chemicals; however, "we have to curb the growth." He continued saying that the intern (Invasive Species Intern Ethan Rossing) will formulate a management plan and communicate it to the public. This plan will include looking at alternatives to the spraying. On May 28, 2013, Pam Roberts, the Northwest Coordinator for the North Woods Weed Management Cooperative, will be on the Island to conduct a workshop at 9:30 AM at the Winter Transportation Building. The public is welcome.

Nick Nelson asked if seminars on this topic could continue throughout the summer. He feels that "people have a right to ask that it not be sprayed" on their property.

Foreman Sowl responded that he continues to cut down the invasives (Common Buckthorn & Japanese Barberry), but that they do not go away.

Jen Croonborg-Murphy asked if there is a different method of application; she said that she painted her stumps with herbicide.

Holly Tourdot stated that her concern is also for the cumulative effect on the eco-system.

She quoted a University of Montana study that says that "herbicide ultimately strengthens the invasive species."

Greg Nelson suggested that Holly organize a private public meeting on the subject.

2. Job Description & Posting RE: Parks Improvement Laborer/Parks Operations Assistant Foreman Sowl stated that the 2013 budget does include the hiring of three park people at less than 600 hours each. He requested that these jobs be posted for \$12 an hour with a deadline of 11:00 AM on May 13, 2013. Motion to approve the job descriptions and authorize the posting. NN/JP 5A Motion Carried.

3. Authorization of emergency hiring for Town Crew: the consensus was to postpone this item until such time as it becomes necessary.

C. Airport

1. Airport Manager's Report & Checklist presented by Michael Dalzell and placed on file by unanimous consent for the following dates: 2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, and 4/7, 2013.

D. Materials Recovery Facility

1. MRF Supervisor's Report April, 2013 placed on file by unanimous consent.

IV. Library Board

A. Appointment of member to the Library Board: the Board has received no recommendation from the Library yet.

B. Library Board Minutes 3/14/13 placed on file by unanimous consent.

V. Committees

A. Zoning

1. Appointment of members to the Town Plan Commission [TPC]: Motion to approve Ron Madich to a term ending on 4/30/2016. HR/JP 5A Motion Carried. Motion to re-appoint Joan Martin & Ted Pallas to terms ending on 4/30/2016. HR/NN 5A Motion Carried.

2. Appointment of TPC Chair: motion to approve the choice of Town Chair Greg Nelson and seat Ted Pallas as the Chair of the TPC. HR/JP 5A Motion Carried.

3. Town Plan Commission recommendation of approval Survey for Industrial Zone lots [Clerk's note: this item refers to the survey of new lots at the Industrial Zone.] Motion to approve the survey based on Town Plan Commission recommendation. HR/JP 5A Motion Carried.

B. CAPP

1. Selection of Committee to select Community Appreciation Award & Town of La Pointe Hall of Fame recipients: postponed until the Regular Town Board Meeting on May 14, 2013.

2. Appointment of members to the Community & Public Works Planning Committee: Motion to appoint Gary Krubsack to seat #5, term ending on 4/30/2015 and to reappoint Margie Denton to a term ending on 4/30/2016. HR/NN 5A Motion Carried.

At this point Town Assessor Jenny Sanders stood up to speak: she told the Board that they may schedule the first meeting of the Board of Review at the Board Meeting on 5/14/2013, and that her salary that appears on the current contract is sufficient.

C. Committee on a Local Food System

1. Appointment of members: motion to re-appoint Regina Laroche & Jeff Theune to terms ending on 4/30/2015. NN/JP 5A MC

VI. Town Hall Administration

A. Administrative Assistant's Report: placed on file by unanimous consent; by consensus the Board wishes for Tom Ketchum, the Town's insurance agent, to appear at the Board Meeting on 5/14/2013.

B. The Town website Nick Nelson reports no updates.

C. Attachment "B" to 2013 Wage Resolution: motion to adopt Attachment "B" to the 2013 Wage Resolution. HR/NN 4A 1 Ab [MC] Motion Carried.

D. Budget Amendment Resolution #2013-3: motion to adopt Budget Amendment Resolution #2013-3 HR/NN 4A 1 Ab [MC] Motion Carried.

E. Issues from the people RE: Annual Town Meeting 4/16/13: Nick Nelson would like to follow up on the low-income housing suggested by Jen Croonborg-Murphy.

H. La Pointe Community Center: Nick Nelson reported another good meeting by this group. He stated that Suellen Soucek is working on an asset map, and the group is working on survey questions.

I. Videotaping/Live Streaming of meetings: Nick Nelson reported that he is still looking at various pieces of equipment; the Board then began addressing a list of questions on this topic that was created by the Town Hall staff.

J Administrator Supervisory Role RE: memo: nothing at this time.

K. Personnel Meeting schedule RE: complaint: Greg Nelson reported that the Grievance recently filed did not, according to Pete Albrecht, employment attorney for the Town, "meet the threshold" for a grievance. Therefore, Chair Nelson has decided to handle the situation as a complaint. The meeting to deal with this will be on Thursday, May 2, 2013, at 4:30 at Town Hall and the Clerk is instructed to post for Closed Session.

L. Personnel Policy Revisions Draft Approval: Glenn Carlson summarized the changes as "aligning the Town's personnel policy with the reality of a Town Administrator. It eliminates Town Board liaisons, and specifies that each department head is the Immediate Supervisor of all employees in their department. It specifies the Town Administrator as the immediate supervisor of the department heads; it names the Town Chair as the immediate supervisor for the Town Administrator. And it brings the Town's employees' health coverage in line with state statutes. Motion to adopt the Revised Town of La Pointe Personnel Policy April 23, 2013: HR/JP 5A Motion Carried.

M. Resolution #2013-0423 To pro-rate the compensation of retiring/newly elected Town officers in the month of April. Motion to adopt Resolution #2013-0423 and add that it supersedes any previous & related resolution. JP/NN 5A Motion Carried.

VII. Vouchers: motion to adopt the vouchers in the amount of \$76,463.64 JP/HR 5A Motion carried.

VIII. Minutes

IX. Emergency Services

B. Ambulance Service

1. Ambulance Director's Report: placed on file by unanimous consent.

X. New Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- A. Resolution of Authority of the Town Administrator
- B. Community and Economic Development Project [CEDS] List
- C. Hiring of Parks Operations Assistant, Parks Improvement Assistant & Campground Hosts
- D. Community Awards Program/ By-laws change
- E. Board of Review: Scheduling of First Meeting
- F. Committee on a Local Food System: suspension of by-laws

XI. Public Comment B**

XII. Lawsuits & Legal Issues

XIII. Liquor & Operators' Licenses

XIV. Adjourned at 7:24 PM

Submitted by Patty Hobin, Town Clerk

Approved as submitted on 5/14/13

Patty Hobin, Town Clerk